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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/852,612	05/11/2001	Shuntaro Aratani	35.C15346	5348
5514	7590	11/12/2003	EXAMINER	
FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO 30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA NEW YORK, NY 10112			YENKE, BRIAN P	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2614	5

DATE MAILED: 11/12/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/852,612	ARATANI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	BRIAN P. YENKE	2614

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1 states "to operate as a monitor of the external apparatus when a first mode is chosen, and controlling said display means so as to operate as a monitor of the external apparatus when a second mode is chosen".

The claims should state as described in specification "to operate as a monitor of the TV monitor [external apparatus] when a first mode is chosen, and controlling said display means so as to operate as a monitor of the external apparatus when a second mode is chosen." Appropriate correction is required.

The examiner has rejected the claims based upon the specification/corrected version above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the

applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

- 3a. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hare et al., US 6,084,638.

In considering claim 1,

- a) *the claimed display means* is met by TV receiver display 4 (Fig 1)
- b) *the claimed connecting means for connecting the display apparatus and an external apparatus* is met where the TV receiver incorporates a device which receives user command and pointing device input data and couples that input data to the PC via an available radio frequency transmission channel which may be wireless or utilize existing wiring such as the AC wiring within a house (col 2, line 25-38, col 6, line 40-63, Fig 1)
- c) *the claimed control means for controlling said display means* is met where based upon the users desired selection, which may be the video/audio from a remote PC or the video/audio of a TV channel, where one mode would be the PC and another mode would be the TV reception. The user can control the TV through a variety of user interface devices including keyboard, mouse, joystick via an user interface extender 26 (col 10, line 12-27).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4a. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hare et al., US 6,084,638.

Regarding claim 2,

Hare discloses a system where a TV and a PC (remotely located from the TV) can both be controlled, where the PC signal (audio/video) may also be displayed on the TV unit, in addition to the user controlling operation of the PC from a remote location. Hare also discloses that the transmission of the signals may be wired or wireless (RF, microwave and IR) and guided transmission media which utilize either dedicated or multi-use transmission lines (e.g. parallel conductor, twisted pair and coaxial cable lines) and/or optical fiber lines (col 6, line 40-63).

However, Hare does not explicitly recite "disconnects" with regard to connecting/disconnecting the display and the external apparatus (PC).

Hare does as stated above, does disclose connecting the TV with the PC whether it is via wired or wireless medium.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify/utilize in Hare, which discloses a system where a user is able to control/view a remote PC signal(s)/operation by controlling a TV receiver and display, by connecting/disconnecting the external apparatus (PC) based upon the users desired mode of operation (viewing the PC signal or TV signal).

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 6,119,172, Belmont et al., discloses a TV/PC convergence device which operates in a TV mode, a computer mode or a combination TV/PC mode;

US 6,008,777, Yiu, discloses a system which interacts with a remote PC from a TV via wireless medium;

US 5,926,175, Sturgeon et al, discloses an electronic convergence device which operates in a computer mode and a TV mode;

US 5,819,156, Belmont, discloses a PC/TV convergence device which tracks, records and reports the use of a TV mode, computer mode and combination TV/computer mode;

US 2002/0066112, Yearwood, discloses a system which combines the features of a personal computer with a television;

US 6,526,581, Edson, discloses a multi-service in-home network which utilizes a gateway providing an open software interface to control in-home communications.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Yenke whose telephone number is (703) 305-9871. The examiner work schedule is Monday-Thursday, 0730-1830 hrs.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisor, John W. Miller, can be reached at (703)305-4795.

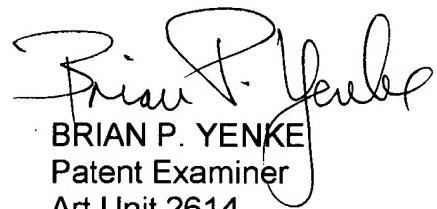
Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist). Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703)305-4700.


BRIAN P. YENKE
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2614


B.P.Y

October 30, 2003